

Around the World

with
Stan Delaplane

KAUAI, HAWAII — Banana pancakes and coconut syrup this warm Hawaiian morning beside blue Waialua Bay. Barefoot and in shorts — the trade wind blows through the house like a touch of silk.

Captain James Cook sailed into this bay on the discovery voyage of 1778. I don't imagine the island of Kauai has changed much. Sand beaches washed by cream surf. The tall coco palms bending into the wind. The gray-green peaks hung with spun-sugar clouds. The occasional burst of tropical rain, and the following sun making instant diamonds on broad, green banana leaves.

"We're not exactly planning Hawaii on a shoestring, but we'd like to make every dollar mean something..."

Let me save you \$75 right away. There are three classes of airline service to Hawaii: First-class, economy, and thrift. (We'll forget first-class.)

Economy is \$110 from the West Coast; thrift is \$100—\$200 round trip. I flew economy and got lunch. The people behind me flew thrift and carried a couple of sandwiches. Otherwise it seemed to me: same cabin, same seats, same movie, same stewardesses. Time: 1 1/2 hours.

Now you can fly to ANY point in Hawaii for the same fare you pay to Honolulu. You transfer to an inter-island plane. You cannot stopover in Honolulu. But if you book yourself to an outer island—say Kona on the Big Island—you only pay the one-way fare back to Honolulu. And you could stop over at Maui on the way.

I figure this saves you \$17.80 each on the Outer Island tour and \$20 each on the West Coast-Hawaii fare. That's \$75.60 you pocket without any loss of comfort.

"Would we save money by renting a house? How do you go about it? Isn't there an exchange club where you can exchange houses?"

You can save plenty of money by renting a house and staying in one place. Moving around costs a lot. You can get hotel rooms at modest prices. But the killer is three restaurant meals a day.

It is very difficult to find houses for short-term rentals. Worse than ever this year. The Vacation Exchange Club is always pessimistic on chances in Hawaii — too much demand. What you can do is get a small hotel or apartment

with a kitchenette. (Hawaii visitors Bureau, Honolulu, has lists.) They aren't all bargains. But just lunch and breakfast at home helps a lot.

"If we get a place to do our own cooking, what would be the cost of living?"

Just about the same as at home. Most things are brought in by ship — and that adds to the cost. We bought cube sugar yesterday — 22 cents more for a box than we pay at home.

On the plus side, you need little clothing. I pack three pairs of khaki shorts. Two pairs of slacks. Five short-sleeve shirts. One pair of sandals. I have a tropic weight suit and shoes for the occasional evening in Honolulu. But only a few places there require tie and jacket at night.

The bargains are in local fish and fruit and imported New Zealand lamb. Small Japanese and Chinese restaurants are inexpensive and good. Waikiki at Honolulu is the highest-priced area — equal to top Mainland prices. But you could get one of these outer islands and shop around and do very well.

"Where would you suggest for two single girls going to Hawaii?"

Forget everything I said and stay at Waikiki. That's where the single bird-watchers are. I see girls landing here. And by cocktail and dinner time, they're plain bored. (This girl underlines "single," and that's the way I read the message.)

Get on the beach and stay on the beach. It's loaded with single men on vacation, surfers, military men stationed at Hawaii, and men from Vietnam on R and R leave. And everybody talks to everybody in the water (warm as mother love). For openers: "Is there any coral rocks here?" Honi kua waiwika!

YMCA Offers 'Caravan' Type Trips

Although filling up rapidly, the summer camps operated by the Torrance Family YMCA, 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd., still have some openings, according to Joe Wilcox, Executive Director.

A few spaces still remain for the "caravan" type camps for boys 12 years old and up. Wilcox said, and indicated that the "Mammoth Mountain Golden Trout Trip" still had plenty of room. The Mammoth Mountain trip is scheduled for July 22 to 29.

The first camp of the summer, Camp Paul Bunyon, for boys 9 to 12, has about 20 spaces left. The trip leaves June 24, and after eight days in the San Bernardino Mountains, returns July 1.

All camps are about \$40 per trip, and a \$5 deposit holds a place for each youngster. Further information can be obtained from the "Y."

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